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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/000,257	11/02/2001	TeckKhoon Lim	P1543US01	9052

7590

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EXAMINER

COLON, ROCIO

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2697

DATE MAILED: 09/15/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/000,257

Applicant(s)

LIM ET AL.

Examiner

Rocio Colon

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 November 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 and 15-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 14 and 20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-13 and 15-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Bliss (USPN 5,563,746).

Regarding claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 16 and 18 Bliss disclose a method/data handling system for detecting defects in a magnetic medium of a data handling system, the magnetic medium having a number of user data wedges each disposed between an adjacent pair of servo data wedges (Fig. 2A, 17 (servo fields) and Fig. 2B, 15 (user data)), the servo data wedges storing servo control data (column 9, lines 18-19) and the user data wedges configured to store user data in data sectors, each user data wedge having a unique address in relation to angular position of the user data wedge on the magnetic medium (column 8, lines 19-21), the method comprising steps of: writing a predetermined sequence of data to the user data wedges (column 8, line 13); reading the data from the user data wedges to generate a readback signal (column 8, line 20); generating a sequence of discrete time sample values from the readback signal (column 8, line 20); identifying a defect in the magnetic medium (column 8, lines 20-21) in relation to the discrete time sample values and outputting to a buffer of the data handling system a multi-bit information record having at least one bit composing the address of the user

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data wedge containing the defect (column 8, lines 20-21); and outputting to the buffer a second multi-bit informational record having at least one bit composing an address of the defect within the user data wedge containing the defect (column 8, lines 22-23).

Regarding claims 3, 11, and 17, Bliss further disclose further comprising a step of outputting nothing to the buffer when a user data wedge is found to be defect free (column 3, lines 52-53, the RAM stores only the defects taken place in the user data).

Regarding claims 4, 12 and 19, Bliss further disclose the predetermined sequence of data of writing step comprises a 2T oscillating pattern (column 6, lines 49-51).

Regarding claims 5 and 13, Bliss further disclose the data handling system comprises a disc drive and the magnetic medium comprises a rigid, rotatable magnetic recording disc (column 5, lines 46-47).

Regarding claims 7 and 15, Bliss further disclose further comprising a step of formatting the data handling system to form a plurality of user available data sectors in the user data wedges for subsequent use in storing user data, wherein a user available data sector is not formed over a defect detected during identifying step (column 4, lines 33-36).

Regarding claim 8, Bliss further discloses the predetermined sequence of data of writing step is written across the complete angular extent of each user data wedge (Figs. 2A and 2B).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 14 and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Schibilla (USPN 6,384,999): detects if a user data site is defective and assign a spare site (abstract). Reddy et al. (USPN 6,295,176): identify if a sector is defective, and if the sector number is found to be defective skips the sector (column 3, lines 55-59)). Ueda et al. (US Pub. 2001/0026511): designate a spare area for defective user data area (abstract). Yamamoto et al. (US Pub. 2002/0056054): detects defective sectors and stores the block number of the defective sector (page 3, paragraphs 50-51).


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rocio Colon whose telephone number is (703) 305-3947. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thu 8:00a.m.-6:30p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Hudspeth can be reached on (703)308-4825. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-3900.


rcv

September 4, 2003


**DAVID HUDSPETH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600**